



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Reissue Application of

Inventors: James A. SATCHELL, Jr. et al

Original U.S. Patent No.: 5,822,216, issued October 13, 1998

Reissue Application Serial No.: 09/686,626

Group Art Unit: 2121

Reissue Application Filing Date: October 12, 2000

Examiner: S. Garland

For: VENDING MACHINE AND COMPUTER ASSEMBLY

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 114-127, 129 and 130 under 35 U.S.C. §251 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has suggested that the claimed “method” claims of the instant application omit material limitations that were used to obtain allowance of “apparatus” claims 1-12 in the original patent.

Applicants do not dispute that some “method” claims, by definition adopted by the United States Patent and Trademark Office, are “broader” than apparatus claims; See, MPEP §1412.03, Rev. 2, May 2004, pages 1400-24.

However, “broadening” is not synonymous with “recapture.”